MODERN TREATMENT—Volume 1, Number 4, July 1964—Treatment of Inectious Diseases—Lowell A. Rantz, M.D., Guest Editor. Harper & Row, Publishers (Hoeber Medical Division), New York, 1964. Bimonthly Publication, by subscription only; 6 books a year; $16.00 per year (laminated paperback); 1033 pages.

Dr. Lowell A. Rantz, Pofessor of Medicine at Stanford and for a quarter of a century a leading and guiding spirit in the field of infectious diseases, died suddenly on June 5, 1964. His unexpected death at the peak of his career is a severe loss to medicine, especially in California. The symposium on "Treatment of Infectious Diseases" may stand as a suitable memorial to Dr. Rantz. He conceived the idea and selected the topics and collaborators in 1962, edited the manuscripts, and finished the book shortly before his death. The volume is a good summary of the field in 1963, presented by a dozen authors. The contributions range from scholarly discussions of the pharmacology of antibiotics to a series of "how to" articles dealing with the management of important infectious disease entities. Many physicians will find this a valuable brief and specific guide.

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BAILEY'S TEXTBOOK OF HISTOLOGY—Fifteenth Edition—Revised by Wilfred M. Copenhaver, Ph.D., Professor of Anatomy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore 2, Md., 1964. 679 pages, $13.50.

This venerable textbook of histology (first edition in 1904) is a product of the college of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. It was greatly improved in the eighth edition when the anatomy staff of P and S assumed the responsibility for revising it. Subsequent editions have shown continuous improvement, culminating in the current fifteenth edition. As in earlier editions the text is eminently readable and beautifully organized. The two columns per page format reduces eye fatigue. In each chapter core information is presented first and siginficant detail skillfully built upon this firm foundation. Many important advances in knowledge of histological ultra structure and histochemistry have been woven skillfully into the fabric of the text without detracting from the organizational unity of presentation. The book contains an abundance of excellent illustrations, many of them in color. They are fully labelled, without the use of abbreviations or keys, accompanied by descriptive legends and consistently referred to in the text.

As in previous editions, and in competing textbooks, this volume stresses the cell as the structural and functional unit of the multicellular organism. Differentiation is memtioned as leading to the formation of tissues (groups of specialized cells) during proliferation in the developing embryo. Since histology is recognized as the study of these tissues, the process of differentiation is fundamental to the subject, and deserves much more than a casual mention in the introduction. The final section in the chapter on Epithelia, named "Membranes" (page 67) starts out with "Epithelium assumes its full significance only when considered in conjunction with the underlying connective tissue." This is an exceptionally appropriate and significant statement and should have a place in every textbook of histology, since, as experimental embryologists have realized for many years, differentiation and maintenance of epithelia are dependent upon the intimate relationship between these two tissues. This is one of the basic facts of functional histology and it is to be regretted that after having stated it the book fails to amplify it in other than strictly static morphological terms. The same failure, however, is evident in all other current editions of American textbooks of histology. Another appropriate place in which it might be discussed is on page 333, in connection with the embryology, growth and replacement of hair.

In spite of the excellent and logical organization of subject matter in this edition, chapter headings are not entirely consistent with content, e.g., Chapter 2, The Living Cell, might well be a subdivision of Chapter 1, The Cell; and Chapters 6, Cartilage and Bone, and 7, Blood and Lymph, might better be subdivisions of Chapter 5, The Connective Tissues. Chapters concerned with organ description are for the most part entitled Systems (Chapters 12, The Circulatory System; 16, The Digestive System; 17, The Respiratory System; 18, The Urinary System; and 19 and 20, The Male and Female Reproductive Systems, respectively). There would seem to be no good reason why the same nomenclature should not be used consistently (Chapters 13, Lymphatic Organs; 14, The Integument; 21, The Endocrine Glands, and even 22, The Organs of Special Senses). As in other histology texts, the distinction between tissues and organs is not clearly stated.

The chapter on epithelia avoids the adrenal cortex and medulla, buccal hypophysis, parathyroid glands, pancreatic islets, corpus luteum and liver. Because these structures pose a special problem in the structural nomenclature of epithelia is no excuse for ignoring them. The first paragraph of the chapter points out that in some instances epithelial ingrowths may lose their free surfaces and their connection with the parent epithelia. It should be acceptable, therefore, to classify most of these specific examples as belonging to simple or stratified cuboidal epithelia.

In the study of pseudostratified epithelium it is useful to observe differences in shape, size and density, as well as the difference in location, of nuclei, of columnar and basal cells; such differences should be included in the description. As in other editions simple cuboidal epithelium is considered as a type of simple columnar epithelium.

In the otherwise excellent text a few minor blemishes occur, e.g., sinusoids are sometimes referred to as sinuses, e.g., page 89. Since all connective tissues are fibrous, this term has been discarded in the revised classification of connective tissues presented on page 69, however, it is still used on page 396. The last sentence on page 117, completed on page 118, is very confusing and should be rewritten.

On page 65 keratinization is attributed to "insufficient nutrition of the upper cell layers"; this is questionable for several reasons, among which is the failure of relatively broad bands of epithelial cells to keratinize in basal cell epitheliomas. On page 405, serous demilunes of the salivary glands are described as "crescent-shaped" groups of serous cells, referring to their sectioned appearance only; three dimensionally they are cup-shaped. There is no mention of the tendency of mucous cells to be arranged as tubules rather than as acini (page 402). Although the structure of the pars intermedia of the pituitary gland is well described, no mention is made of its function (page 570). The absence of cilia in the olfactory epithelium is not mentioned (page 642). No mention is made of the histological and histochemical distinction between epinephrine and nor-epinephrine-secreting adrenal medullary cells (page 585).

Nothing is included of recent interesting ultrastructural studies of the retina, suggesting a similarity between the fibrillar patterns of cilia and that of rods and cones. The "intranuclear inclusions" (of secretory significance) always demonstrable in healthy, adult ductus deferens epithelium, are not mentioned (page 503). The book contains no illustration of the larynx (page 438). According to the terminology adopted on page 192, the sensory neurones ending peripherally should be referred to as "receptor or